	Application No.	Applicant(s)		
	10/654,421	SASAKI ET AL.		
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit		
	Paul D. Kim	3729		
The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate committee (GHTS). This application is s	n this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due cou	urse. THIS	
1. This communication is responsive to 1/22/2004.				
2. 🔀 The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-9</u> .				
 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority ur a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 	, , , ,	or (f).		
Certified copies of the priority documents have				
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the				
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).				
* Certified copies not received:				
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file IENT of this application.	a reply complying with the requir	rements	
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submit INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	itted. Note the attached EXA es reason(s) why the oath or	AMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOT declaration is deficient.	ICE OF	
5. \square CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	t be submitted.			
(a) \square including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	on's Patent Drawing Review	v (PTO-948) attached		
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date				
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment or	in the Office action of		
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1. each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the	.84(c)) should be written on the header according to 37 CF	ne drawings in the front (not the back) R 1.121(d).	ck) of	
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT I 	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATE FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIO	ERIAL must be submitted. Note DLOGICAL MATERIAL.	e the	
Attachment(s) 1. ⊠ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5 D Notice of Int	formal Patent Application (PTO-1	52)	
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	<u></u>	ımmary (PTO-413),	~ <u>~</u>)	
_	Paper No./	Mail Date		
 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date <u>9/4/03</u> 	8), 7. 🖾 Examiner's	Amendment/Comment		
 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	8. 🛛 Examiner's	Statement of Reasons for Allowa	nce	
of biological Material	9. 🗌 Other	9. Other		

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Armstrong on 1/3/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 19, line 6: After the phrase "magnetic layer", delete the numeric "23".

IN THE CLAIM

Re. Claim 1: Before the phrase "magnetic layer" as recited in line 37, delete the phrase "first".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to disclose the claimed invention such as a process of forming a magnetic layer to be a track width defining portion formed on a recording gap layer follow by selectively etching through the mask so as to form an end portion of the magnetic layer for defining a throat height defining layer and etching the magnetic layer, the gap layer and a portion of the first pole layer so that each of the portion of the first magnetic layer, the gap layer, the throat height defining layer and the track width defining portion has a

width that is taken in the medium facing surface and equal to the track width. The closest reference Sasaki (US PAT. 6,560,068) teaches a process of forming a recording track width having a width equal to a track width, but fails to teach a magnetic layer to be a track width defining portion formed on a recording gap layer follow by selectively etching through the mask so as to form an end portion of the magnetic layer for defining a throat height defining layer. It is not obvious taken alone or in combination of other references fairly to suggest the claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

- 3. Claims 1-9 are allowed.
- 4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul D. Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4565. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Paul D Kim

Examiner

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